

CONGRESSIONAL
SPORTSMEN'S
FOUNDATION

To: The Honorable Josh Becker
Chair; Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee
Re: Assembly Bill 1912
Position: SUPPORT
Date: June 9, 2026

Dear Chair Becker and Honorable Members of the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee:

On behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF), I respectfully urge your support for Assembly Bill 1912, Deer: Archery Season: Concealed Firearms. The right to personal protection should not be relinquished when a hunter enters the field. AB 1912 ensures that individuals who are otherwise legally authorized to carry a concealed firearm may continue to exercise that right while participating in archery hunting.

Founded in 1989, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation is a leading voice on outdoor issues and a key advocate for sound public policy. Through its work with the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC), the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus (GSC), and the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC), CSF represents hunters, anglers, recreational shooters, and trappers in Congress and state capitols on issues central to America's conservation legacy.

There are many recorded incidents in which a handgun, carried by a hunter while archery hunting, preserved the life of hunters in the face of both two and four-legged threats. Because archery equipment is limited in its effectiveness during self-defense situations, allowing bowhunters to carry a handgun while afield is especially important. In many parts of California, large predators such as bears and mountain lions present real risks. Bowhunters may also encounter illegal backcountry drug operations on public lands, increasing the potential for dangerous situations.

For these reasons, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation respectfully supports AB 1912 and urges the Committee to approve this common-sense measure. Allowing licensed individuals to carry a concealed firearm while archery hunting will help ensure that California's bowhunters can protect themselves from legitimate threats in the field. Thank you for your consideration, and please do not hesitate to reach out if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Kaylee Mortensen

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